

Writing Scoring Guide, Grade 4
Aligned with 6+1 Traits of Writing

4	3	2	1
ORGANIZATION			
Has an effective beginning, middle, and end.	Has a beginning, middle, and end.	Has evidence of a beginning, middle, and end.	May lack evidence of a beginning, middle, and/or end.
IDEAS			
Contains a clear controlling idea.	Contains a controlling idea.	Contains a general sense of direction, but may lack focus.	Is difficult to follow and/or lacks focus.
ORGANIZATION & IDEAS			
Clearly addresses the topic and provides specific and relevant details/examples.	Addresses the topic and uses relevant details/examples.	Addresses the topic, but may contain some details that are not relevant.	May address the topic, but lacks details.
WORD CHOICE			
Uses precise and vivid language.	Uses language that is usually precise.	May use imprecise language.	Uses imprecise language.
SENTENCY FLUENCY			
Contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.	Contains sentences that are clear and show some variety in structure.	Contains sentences which are generally clear, but lack variety in structure.	Contains sentences that are unclear and lack variety in structure.
VOICE & IDEAS			
Clearly shows an awareness of audience and purpose.	Shows an awareness of audience and purpose.	Shows some awareness of audience and purpose.	Shows little or no awareness of audience or purpose.
CONVENTIONS			
Contains few errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling.	May contain errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling that are not distracting to the reader.	Contains errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling that may be distracting to the reader.	Contains repeated errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling that are distracting to the reader.